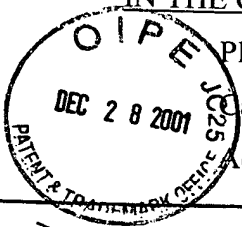


IN THE CLAIMS



Please amend the claims as follows:

Cancel Claims 1-27, without prejudice.

Add new Claims 28-34 as follows:

28. (new) A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a mammal comprising administering erythropoietin peripherally to said mammal.

29. (new) The method of Claim 28 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

30. (new) The method of Claim 28 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

31. (new) The method of any one of Claims 28 to 30 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

32. (new) The method of any one of Claims 28 to 30 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

33. (new) The method of any one of Claims 28 to 30 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin or a derivative thereof.

34. (new) The method of any one of Claims 28 to 30 wherein the mammal is a human.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect to pursue the subject matter of the claims of group IV, claims 6-18, 23, and 24, drawn to a method of protecting or